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Security Council

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Letter dated 11 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach herewith the detailed report entitled "The United States should not abuse the Armistice Agreement Supervisory Mechanism she scrapped", issued by the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army on 8 August 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Sin** Son Ho
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

08-45918 (E) 180808

Annex to the letter dated 11 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Detailed report by the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army

The United States should not abuse the Armistice Agreement Supervisory Mechanism she scrapped

Panmunjom, 8 August, Juche 97 (2008)

In view of the fact that the United States is playing tricks to give the impression that the defunct Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (NNSC) is still in existence, the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army (KPA) hereby issues a detailed report, as follows.

The United States has long since turned south Korea into a nuclear base, the biggest ever in the world, and eliminated the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission — a body to supervise the implementation of the Armistice Agreement and its affiliated Neutral Nations Inspection Teams which have impeded its preparation for provoking a new war.

Even today, the United States still stations members of the defunct Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission from Switzerland and Sweden at Panmunjom and stages a disgraceful drama to mislead the public at large, as if the Commission remained in place.

In recent days, the United States side hustles about, holding a meeting of the NNSC almost on a daily basis by manipulating Swiss and Swedish personnel who used to man the defunct Commission; even when the Commission was active, meetings were held only once a week, every Tuesday.

The United States side also instigates Swiss and Swedish personnel of the defunct Commission to stand on the Demarcation Line for hours and hold a certain "message", soliciting us for its acceptance, as a part of "diplomacy to win sympathy" — obviously a move aimed at winning the sympathy of tourists who visit Panmunjom.

We have already refused to accept this so-called "message".

Worse still, the United States side, in its disgrace, is bent on an attempt to give the impression that the NNSC is still operational by encouraging the Swiss and Swedish personnel to work as guides for the tourists at Panmunjom and show up at shameful ploys such as GIs' helicopter take-off and landing exercises and "memorial services" for United States servicepersons held in the vicinity of the meeting hall.

Even in Europe, at the instigation of the United States, the personnel from the ex-member States of the NNSC huddle together for a supposed annual meeting to make preposterous remarks about their continued willingness to fulfil their duties pursuant to the Armistice Agreement.

The NNSC was an international body that was instituted at Panmunjom on 1 August 1953, in accordance with paragraph 36 of the Armistice Agreement.

Its primary mission was to supervise and observe the implementation of subparagraph d, paragraph 13, of the Armistice Agreement aimed at preventing the recurrence of armed conflicts after the ceasefire; that paragraph stipulated that the parties to the Armistice should not introduce the reinforcing elements of armed forces into Korea.

With the NNSC still in place, the United States military was not in a position to modernize the United States troops occupying south Korea. Moreover, it was impossible for the United States military to ship in nuclear weapons — a scheme driven by its "strategy for massive retaliation".

Accordingly, the United States military sabotaged the supervision and inspection activities of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams in every way.

As its military beef-up and violations of the Armistice Agreement had been uncovered, the United States side forcefully expelled Neutral Nations Inspection Teams stationed within its territory on 9 June 1956 and officially announced its unilateral renunciation of implementation of subparagraph d, paragraph 13, of the Armistice Agreement at the 75th session of the Military Armistice Commission, held on 21 June 1957.

As a result, the NNSC ended up existing in name only.

On 25 March 1991, the United States side designated a general of the south Korean puppet army as its senior delegate to the Military Armistice Commission, in flagrant violation of paragraph 20, article II, of the Armistice Agreement; it must be noted that south Korea is neither a signatory to the Armistice Agreement nor qualified and empowered to handle issues arising from the implementation of the Armistice Agreement. Thus, the Military Armistice Commission was compelled to halt its activities and consequently, the NNSC was left without terms of reference.

Meanwhile, the personnel of the NNSC from Czechoslovakia and Poland withdrew from Panmunjom. Further, the admission of Czechoslovakia and Poland into NATO resulted in the loss of their neutrality. Finally, the NNSC that existed in name only collapsed completely.

Nevertheless, the United States is playing tricks to give the impression that the defunct NNSC still exists. This sinister move is aimed at justifying the presence of the "United Nations Command" as a signatory to the Armistice Agreement and giving legitimacy to an automatic and prompt deployment of multinational armed forces in case of emergency on the Korean peninsula. It also seeks to shift the blame for the collapse of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by preparing the Swiss and Swedish personnel to act as "eyewitnesses" in favour of the United States.

However, it takes more than cunning tricks of this nature to avoid responsibility. The blame for the intentional scrapping of the NNSC and the creation of the nuclear crisis on the Korean peninsula lies entirely with the United States.

The United States not only undermined the NNSC systematically but also brought in a massive supply of various kinds of operational equipment and nuclear weapons, thus literally turning south Korea into its nuclear arsenal and a front-line

depot to give logistic support. As if all these were not enough, the United States has been conducting incessant nuclear war exercises against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This is the reason why the nuclear crisis was created on the Korean peninsula and our people were forced to live under constant threat of nuclear war posed by the United States.

Today, the United States and its followers trumpet as if the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula had been created because the Democratic People's Republic of Korea established a nuclear power facility and built up a war deterrence for self-defence against the threat of nuclear strike posed by the United States while stepping up its sanctions and pressure against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It does not make sense at all.

The KPA has been standing in confrontation with the United States troops armed with a huge stockpile of nuclear weapons of all kinds in south Korea.

Korean people are not weak-kneed people who are overwhelmed by the nuclear threat posed by the United States and helplessly wait for a stroke of luck and mercy to come from heaven.

If the United States believes that its threats, arbitrary use of power and sanctions could bring our people to their knees, it is a serious mistake.

Sanctions and pressure of the United States and its followers cannot intimidate Korean people who regard sovereignty as their lifeblood. No one can lay its hands on our system and sovereign dignity.

The current situation proves that we were absolutely right to build up military power for self-defence at an appropriate level against the nuclear threat posed by the United States.

The United States must perish its daydream to achieve a sinister goal by taking advantage of the monster-like "Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission".

The only valid choice to promote lasting peace and secure stability on the Korean peninsula is to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and establish a new system to ensure peace.

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Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representatives of Costa Rica on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 7 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations stating that Mauricio Artiñano and Carolina Sevilla have been appointed alternate representatives of Costa Rica on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, this letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

08-45886 (E) 130808

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Letter dated 11 August 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached report on the international security presence in Kosovo covering the period from 1 to 31 May 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

08-45904 (E) 150808 150808

Annex

[Original: English]

Monthly report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. This report covers the period from 1 to 31 May 2008.

2. As at 31 May 2008, the total number of troops in theatre was 15,839. This includes 2,185 troops from non-NATO countries.

3. On 22 May 2008, the national assembly of Armenia ratified the protocol on amendments to the memorandum of understanding between Greece and Armenia concerning the involvement of Armenian armed forces in the Greek battalion deployed in Kosovo. The next Armenian contingent in Multinational Task Force East will include two platoons (total, 70 troops) instead of one platoon (34 troops), as is currently the case.

Political situation

4. Serbian President Boris Tadić's Democratic Party won the elections in Serbia on 11 May 2008. Intensive talks on the formation of a coalition Government have started. A majority of Serbs in Kosovo voted in favour of the Radical Party and of Prime Minister Koštunica's Democratic Party of Serbia.

Security situation

5. On 6 May 2008, in Orlovic (Multinational Task Force Centre), unknown suspects damaged windows and the roof of Saint Sada church and some graves.

6. On 10 May 2008, in Pristina (Multinational Task Force Centre), an explosion occurred in a garage under construction. A Kosovo Force (KFOR) improvised explosive device disposal team was called to the spot to investigate. The suspect and the motive remain unknown.

7. On 11 May 2008, in Slatina (Multinational Task Force Centre), an explosion occurred in a Kosovo Albanian house. The Kosovo Police Service is handling the incident.

8. On 13 May 2008, in Pristina (Multinational Task Force Centre), a 26,000-litre diesel tank accidentally exploded in a factory. No casualties were reported.

9. On 18 May 2008, in Strepce (Multinational Task Force East), a Kosovo Serb was detained by the Kosovo Police Service after assaulting a Kosovo Albanian.

10. On 21 May 2008, in Decani (Multinational Task Force West), a Kosovo Serb returnee was beaten up by a Kosovo Albanian as he was passing in front of a bar. Other Kosovo Albanians intervened to defend him and the victim suffered only minor injuries.

11. On 24 May 2008, in Raskovo (Multinational Task Force North), an accidental explosion occurred, probably originating in an old mine. A KFOR explosive ordnance disposal team was called to the spot. One Kosovo Albanian was killed in the explosion.

12. On 25 May, in Klina (Multinational Task Force West), a parked vehicle owned by a Kosovo Albanian exploded. No injuries were reported.

13. On 27 May 2008, in Vrbnica (Multinational Task Force South), the border crossing with Albania was closed for 10 hours due to a hazardous chemical spill.

14. On 29 May 2008, in Pec (Multinational Task Force West), a Kosovo Albanian car exploded near the municipality of Pec after a hand grenade was thrown at it. Three Kosovo Albanians were slightly injured in the explosion.

15. On 30 May 2008, in Zubin Potok (Multinational Task Force North), a Kosovo Albanian male was shot in the back by unknown suspects while cutting wood and was transported to Vucitrn hospital. He was released after receiving treatment.

16. During the reporting period, there were no significant acts of violence or threats against KFOR.

17. A total of 421 incidents were reported during May, compared to 497 in the previous month. Out of the 421 incidents reported, 25 were related to drugs; 26 to counterfeit currency or documents; 39 to smuggling; 10 to explosions; 104 to miscellaneous criminal incidents; 95 to possession of illegal weapons; 27 to weapons and ammunition seizures; and 95 to unexploded ordnance.

Kosovo Force operations

18. KFOR continues to conduct Kosovo-wide framework operations to help maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for all in Kosovo. KFOR also continues to provide support to the police at the gates in northern Kosovo and in the enclaves.

19. The overall Multinational Task Force posture did not change in May. The effort remained focused on Multinational Task Force North, reinforced by the Kosovo Tactical Manoeuvre battalion and the Austrian/German Operational Reserve Force battalion. The British Operational Reserve Force battalion started to deploy on 22 May 2008 to take over the tasks carried out by the Austrian/German Operational Reserve Force battalion. Currently, Multinational Task Force North controls 17 manoeuvre companies, amounting to 29 per cent of the forces available in KFOR. Three companies are still reinforcing Multinational Task Force Centre. On 13 May 2008, Multinational Task Force Centre activated the Czech reserve company to increase security in its area. That company unit arrived at Pristina Airport on 17 and 18 May 2008. On 29 May 2008, Austria took over the command of Multinational Task Force South from Turkey.

20. The number of gatherings and of participants at gatherings remained low. Between 30 and 100 individuals still attend the daily demonstration in north Mitrovica, which is the only reported politically motivated Kosovo Serb demonstration. On 26 May 2008, the Serbian Minister for Kosovo-Metohija, Slobodan Samardzic, concluded a two-day visit to Kosovo. The former Prime Minister of Kosovo and leader of the Alliance for the Future of Kosovo party, Ramush Haradinaj, conducted a political tour around the Multinational Task Force North area of responsibility. The attendance at rallies was relatively low, ranging from 300 to 1,000 people.

Compliance with statement of principles of the Commander of the Kosovo Force and regulation 1999/8 of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

21. The Disciplinary Board met on 16 May 2008 to discuss five cases, including two for unauthorized absence, one for multiple acts of non-compliance, one relating to suspension with pay and one relating to reinstatement to duty and pay.

Kosovo Protection Corps

22. No recruitment campaign was conducted in May 2008.

23. The current active personnel establishment is 2,876. There are 178 active ethnic minority members (6.2 per cent of the total force), including 157 male and 21 female. The total percentage of ethnic minority representation in the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) remains the same as in April 2008. There are still 127 vacant minority posts on the active personnel establishment list. The reserve personnel establishment list totals 2,000 positions, of which 1,892 are filled, 48 of them by ethnic minorities.

24. The KPC crisis management exercise "Eagle 07" was conducted on 15 and 16 May 2008 and a command post exercise took place at Ferizaj on 21 and 22 May 2008. The final part of the Kosovo-wide Exercise "Eagle 7" was successfully conducted between 27 and 30 May 2008.

25. During May 2008, 16 ceremonies involving 116 KPC members took place. No incidents were reported.

26. The date of 6 June 2008, was confirmed as the official deadline for Kosovo Serbs to return to work in KPC. Thereafter, discharge procedures will be initiated and payments will be stopped. Work is ongoing to draft the KPC pension law. The Kosovo Force Commander would need to make recommendations by mid-August 2008, in consultation with Prime Minister Thaçi, on the selection of key personnel for a Kosovo security force.

Conclusion

27. The security situation remained calm throughout May 2008, although a number of relatively minor incidents occurred across Kosovo, none of which have had any strategic impact. The elections in Serbia on 11 May 2008 passed without any incidents in Kosovo. KFOR retains its reinforced presence, particularly in the north, and continues to stand ready to deal adequately with unrest or violence, especially after 15 June 2008.

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Report by the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representatives of Indonesia on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 15 July 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations stating that I. Putu Yuli Adnyana, Muhammad Anshor, Witjaksono Adji, Triyogo Jatmiko, Odo R. M. Manuhutu, Daniel T. S. Simanjuntak, Rolliansyah Soemirat and Adhyanti S. W Suryana have been appointed alternate representatives of Indonesia on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

08-46022 (E) 140808